

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Chairman, Warren Norris, Charles Smith, Janet Kile, Marvin Hedrick, Jerry Kent, Mary Ann Beard, Auditor and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance. Kevin Spilman was absent.

Chairman Gerald Mohr called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the November meeting were approved on a motion by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Charles Smith. Motion carried.

SHERIFF'S CONTRACT

The sheriff's contract for newly elected Sheriff Jim Cowan was presented. The contract is for four years and the salary will be the amount budgeted of \$69,264. The only increase will be determined by the ratio of the Prosecutor's salary. Marvin Hedrick moved to approve the contract. Jerry Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TRANSFERS

The following transfers were approved by unanimous vote:

- Extension Office-\$900.00 from Mileage to Supplies. Motion by Warren Norris and seconded by Janet Kile.
- Superior Court-\$300.00 from Travel to Office Equipment. Motion by Charles Smith and seconded by Jerry Kent. Also \$900.00 from Medical Evaluation to Office Equipment. Motion by Jerry Kent and seconded by Warren Norris.
- Highway-\$2,149.41 from Garage Equipment to Garage Motors. Motion by Jerry Kent and seconded by Warren Norris. Also \$830.06 from Garage Equipment to Tires. Motion by Janet Kile and seconded by Warren Norris.
- Auditor-allow the auditor to make year- end emergency transfers. Motion by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Charles Smith.

ECDC

ECDC Director John McCane explained that an information film on Rush County has been produced and he was seeking Edit Funds to assist with the airing on PBS. Janet Kile moved to allow \$2,000 toward the \$6,000 required. Marvin Hedrick seconded the motion. Motion carried. McCane shared that according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Rush County led in Per Capita Income Growth for the state of Indiana and ranked 103rd nation-wide. Mr. McCane was asked who owned the North Industrial Park. McCane explained that the Rushville Redevelopment Commission assumes ownership and that \$225,000 of TIF funds are being used for the development and TIF funds will support the up-keep.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood reported 30 inmates are currently housed at the jail. The Sheriff reported that 19 applications have been received for the merit deputy position and 8 have law enforcement background. There have been 2 applicants for the courthouse security position. Sherwood thanked the Council for their co-operation and support the last 8 years. Gerald Mohr thanked the Sheriff for his service.

JAIL MEETING

Marvin Hedrick reminded those on the New Jail Committee that the next meeting will be at Glenwood Town Hall at 11:00a.m.

Jerry Kent thanked the council for his retirement gift. Commissioner Bruce Levi thanked him for his knowledge and service.

Gerald Mohr called for a recess for the public hearing with NextEra Wind Energy.

PUBLIC MEETING-WHITewater WIND FARMS

The Public Hearing of the joint bodies of the Rush County Commissioners and the Rush County Council was called to order at 9:00a.m. Mary Solada legal counsel and Jerry Farrell project manager for NextEra Wind Energy presented information about NextEra and the process to initiate the Whitewater Wind Farm project. Questions were answered and the floor was opened to sixteen people that wished to speak on the project. Each was allotted 3 minutes for discussion. When completed Charles Smith moved to close the public hearing. Jerry Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Comments were received by elected officials and then Janet Kile moved to approve Resolution #3, The Final Economic Revitalization Area Resolution Confirming the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area and grant Real and Personal Property Tax Abatement for Whitewater Wind, LLC. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried with Warren Norris and Marvin Hedrick voting "No".

Resolution #4 Establishing the Wind Farm Economic Development Fund and the Wind Farm Expense Fund was passed on a motion by Jerry Kent. Janet Kile seconded the motion. The motion carried with Warren Norris and Marvin Hedrick voting "No".

Auditor, Mary Ann Beard presented an additional appropriation request for \$40,000 for the Wind Farm Expense Fund. Charles Smith moved to allow with Jerry Kent seconding the motion. Motion carried with Warren Norris and Marvin Hedrick voting "No".

Commissioner Resolution #3 Approving an Economic Development Agreement, a Road Use Agreement, and a Decommissioning Agreement with Whitewater Wind, LLC was approved on a motion by Ken Masters with Mark Bacon offering a second. Motion carried.

Jerry Kent moved to adjourn. Marvin Hedrick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/s/ Gerald Mohr
Gerald Mohr, Chairman

/s/ Warren Norris
Warren Norris

/s/ Charles Smith
Charles Smith

/s/ Janet Kile
Janet Kile

/s/ Marvin Hedrick
Marvin Hedrick

/s/ Kevin Spilman
Kevin Spilman

/s/ Jerry Kent
Jerry Kent

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor